

time to recognize the East Chicago Good Fellows Club, Inc. as the organization celebrates its 100th Anniversary. In honor of this special occasion, the club's leaders and members will be commemorating this milestone with a ceremony at Dynasty Banquets in Hammond, Indiana, on Saturday, April 23, 2022.

The East Chicago Good Fellows Club is one of the oldest social organizations in the state of Indiana. The group was established in 1922 and was initially formed as an athletic club that held a variety of sporting events. Throughout the years, the club has continued to host and sponsor numerous sporting and charity events in support of the community of East Chicago and beyond. In addition, the Good Fellows Club is active in their support of local youth sports teams and other charitable endeavors throughout Northwest Indiana. The members and leadership of the Good Fellows Club are to be highly praised for their commitment to philanthropy throughout the region, and I am happy to celebrate and honor their good work.

At this time, I would like to acknowledge the Good Fellows Club Officers: President Joseph Fabian, Vice President Richard Peterson, Business Manager Eugene Nowacki, Financial Secretary Ronald Spudich, Treasurer Jerry Kundich, Secretary John Folta, and Sergeant-at-Arms Thomas Keough. The club's Trustees are Phillip Fabian, Jason Gore, and James McCormick.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating the East Chicago Good Fellows Club on its 100th anniversary. For their outstanding dedication to the community of East Chicago and Northwest Indiana, the leaders and members of this great organization are to be recognized and commended.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF BETTY REID SOSKIN

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 11, 2022

Mr. DeSAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of esteemed activist and public servant, Betty Reid Soskin, upon her retirement from the National Park Service.

Throughout her life and career, Betty has demonstrated steadfast dedication to advocacy and service. During World War II, she was a file clerk for the Boilermakers Union A-36, an all-Black union auxiliary. Betty continued her community involvement as an active voice in protesting the Vietnam War and writing music about the experiences of the Civil Rights Movement. She also held other esteemed positions like serving as a delegate to the 1972 Democratic National Convention, legislative aide for a Berkeley City Councilmember, and field representative for two California State Assemblymembers.

In 2000 when the Rosie the Riveter World War II Home Front National Historic Park was established in Richmond, California, Betty became actively involved in preserving the East Bay's rich history. In 2004, Betty became a ranger with the National Park Service assigned to the Rosie the Riveter Park. In this role, Betty educated thousands of park visitors

by sharing her story as a young Black woman working during the war. Betty has worked tirelessly to continue honoring the past and to teach future generations about the wartime efforts. Her voice has been critical in highlighting the experiences of women and African Americans who had participated in the war so that these stories are not forgotten. At 100 years old, Betty was the oldest National Park Ranger in the country.

Betty has been rightfully recognized over the years for her advocacy and commitment to social justice. Betty was named "Woman of the Year" in 1995 by the California State Legislature and was recognized by the National Women's History Project as one of the country's ten outstanding women in 2006. She was formally recognized by President Obama in 2015, even having the honor of lighting the National Christmas Tree that year. Additionally, she was Glamour Magazine's "Woman of the Year" in 2018 and recently had a middle school in El Sobrante named after her.

Betty is a pillar of our community and I am proud to call her a friend. Her leadership and passionate spirit are an inspiration to all who know her. Please join me in congratulating Betty on her retirement and honoring her for her years of dedicated service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RICK W. ALLEN

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 11, 2022

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on April 6th and 7th. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 116; NAY on Roll Call No. 117; NAY on Roll Call No. 118; NAY on Roll Call No. 119; NAY on Roll Call No. 120; YEA on Roll Call No. 121; YEA on Roll Call No. 122; NAY on Roll Call No. 123; YEA on Roll Call No. 124; and YEA on Roll Call No. 125.

BLACK MATERNAL HEALTH WEEK 2022

HON. ALMA S. ADAMS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 11, 2022

Ms. ADAMS. Madam Speaker, information can save lives. Even children's cartoons used to say that "knowing is half the battle."

So, during the fifth Annual Black Maternal Health Week, which runs April 11–17, I want to impress upon our community that research and data could not be more important to our efforts to close the mortality and morbidity gaps between white and Black parents.

When my fellow members of Congress learn that Black Americans are three-to-four times more likely to die in childbirth than white Americans, they pay attention—even if they're not paying attention to concepts like structural racism, implicit bias, and social determinants of health.

However, the data also tell us that bias and racism are alive and well in healthcare; or as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who we lost 54 years ago this week, once said: "Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in Health care is the most shocking and inhumane."

Health care is not equal in our country, and it never has been so we shouldn't be surprised when that inequality extends to mothers and their children—and the numbers here don't lie. Unfortunately, we know the truth: maternal health in America is in crisis, and like so many crises, the maternal mortality crisis has hit Black America harder.

As we've seen from the COVID-19 pandemic, the adage is true: when white America comes down with a cold, Black America gets pneumonia. In maternal care, Black women are three to four times more likely to die from preventable pregnancy-related complications than non-Hispanic, white women—no matter their level of education or socioeconomic status—even though 60 percent these deaths are preventable.

What's worse is for every mother lost there are hundreds of near misses. And annually, approximately 50,000 women experience severe pregnancy complications which result in serious health consequences.

However, because we have this data, we've been able to develop policy solutions to address the Black maternal health crisis in America. If we get this work done, we will not only raise the tide for Black women—who are among the most marginalized and the most vulnerable—we will also improve outcomes and care for all women.

My work on this issue started when I joined up with then-Senator KAMALA HARRIS and the Black Mamas Matter Alliance to introduce our Annual Black Maternal Health Week resolution, something we've done every year since. Then, in 2019, I joined the youngest Black woman ever elected to Congress, Congresswoman LAUREN UNDERWOOD, to launch a Congressional caucus focused on Black maternal health.

As the co-founders and co-chairs of the bipartisan Black Maternal Health Caucus, we developed a solution: the Momnibus. The Momnibus is a package of 12 bills to comprehensively address all aspects of the maternal mortality crisis, with a focus on Black parents using reproductive justice as a guide. It is a solution that says, unequivocally, Black mothers matter.

With the support of a historic coalition of nearly 200 health care providers, Black mothers, policymakers, researchers, activists, and maternal health advocates we crafted a collaborative, targeted and timely set of policies to improve maternal health outcomes for Black pregnant and postpartum individuals, particularly during the COVID pandemic. The Black Maternal Health Momnibus will fill gaps in existing legislation to comprehensively address every dimension of the Black maternal health crisis in America.

Throughout the process, we remained very intentional about centering the voices of Black women and ensuring Black woman-led organizations are consulted often. The Momnibus makes investments in social determinants of health, community-based organizations, the growth and diversification of the perinatal workforce, improvements in data collection and quality measures, digital tools like telehealth, and innovative payment models. Finally, in addition to direct efforts to improve Black maternal health outcomes, the Momnibus focuses on high-risk populations, including women veterans, incarcerated women, and Native Americans.

When we reintroduced the Momnibus last year, we went from nine bills to 12 bills because we had to have legislation to address immunization—vaccines—as well as COVID-19. The state of maternal health in this country is a crisis, but with the pandemic, we experienced a crisis within a crisis—and tens of thousands of pregnant women have had to struggle with being pregnant or giving birth while experiencing COVID-19. Two of these new bills in the Momnibus package promote maternal vaccinations to protect the health and safety of moms and babies and invest in federal programs to address the unique risks for and effects of COVID-19 during and after pregnancy.

Last year, we received good news when all the eligible provisions of the Momnibus were included in the Build Back Better Act, which passed the House. The Momnibus provisions in Build Back Better invest in addressing social determinants of health that influence maternal health outcomes; fund community-based organizations working to improve maternal health outcomes; grow and diversify the perinatal workforce to improve maternity care; support moms with mental health conditions and substance abuse disorders; invest in Historically Black Colleges and Universities to train culturally competent health professionals; and address the effects of COVID-19 and climate change on mothers.

That's a comprehensive approach to this crisis, something we've never tried before. However, the Build Back Better Act is stalled in the Senate and will likely be passed in a more limited form, if at all. We as Members of Congress must take the Black maternal health crisis seriously. Moms and children are dying, and we must act.

When we think about how important mothers are, we should recognize that parents touch so many lives, even outside their immediate families. Their threads weave into countless others to form the fabric of our communities. When we lose a parent to this crisis, we lose teachers, volunteers, activists, professionals, caregivers, parishioners, and mommies. When too many threads are pulled, the fabric unravels.

We owe our communities a different future. This Black Maternal Health Week, let's work together to pass the Momnibus into law.

Our mamas cannot wait.

COMMEMORATING WHISPERING
MANES THERAPEUTIC RIDING
CENTER OPENING THE MARCH
ARENA

HON. CARLOS A. GIMENEZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 11, 2022

Mr. GIMENEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the Whispering Manes Therapeutic Riding Center's opening of a new arena in Florida's 26th Congressional District. It is my honor to recognize individuals and organizations in my district that dedicate their time and resources to helping improve the lives of children and their families that struggle with physical, cognitive, and emotional disabilities.

Whispering Manes is opening a new arena and dedicating it to Marilyn Fizer March, an advocate and leader for children who suffer from a wide variety of disabilities. The March Arena is in the heart of my district and serves a neighborhood that would not otherwise have access to equine activities.

Through safe and supervised programs, participants with a wide range of disabilities are given the opportunity to participate in activities that promote physical, cognitive, or emotional well-being. The program aims to promote improvements in core and overall muscle strength, balance, and motor skills.

I am always proud to recognize individuals and organizations that dedicate their time to improving the lives of children in my district and in the community. I look forward to seeing this new arena provide invaluable services to this community and the constituents of Florida's 26th Congressional District.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOSEPH
C. BOSCO

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 11, 2022

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, it is with great sorrow that I rise today to honor the life of the late Joseph "Joey" Bosco, a lifelong Enfield, Connecticut resident who passed on April 1st, 2022, at the age of 60.

Born to Angelo Bosco and Mary Diana Bosco in 1962 in Springfield, Massachusetts, just across the Connecticut border, Joey was destined to be an irreplaceable member of the Enfield community. Upon graduating from Enfield High School in 1980, Joey remained in Enfield where he became the co-owner of Bosco Automotive Inc. Joey was memorable for his dedication to his town and family.

Having lived all his life in Enfield, his love for his town was reflected through the many hours of dedicated public service to the Town of Enfield. Joey served as a member of the Enfield Town Council for more than 14 years and on several other community boards throughout the years. He was especially notable as a member of the Board of Directors for the Four Town Fair. He spent many hours planning leading up to the fair, the main event of which for him was always meant to be an opportunity to connect with family and friends.

Apart from his constant service to his town, Joey spent his free time on the beach, at car shows, and on his farm. Friday nights Joey was known to be at the Country Diner with his family and friends talking for hours. The most rewarding title to Joey is being a "Papa" to his four loving grandchildren, Charlotte, Waylon Joseph, Oliver, and Reagan.

Madam Speaker, it is an incredible honor to represent constituents as loyal to the future of their community as Joey Bosco. Though Joey's legacy and character will continue to have a ripple effect as a force of altruism, particularly for those who knew him in the Enfield community, his loss and what it means for the region cannot be understated. I had the opportunity to get to know him at community events—parades and veteran's ceremonies. Walking

beside him, I saw firsthand how revered he was by neighbors, customers, first responders and fellow public officials. We were different parties, but on a personal level he was very cordial and down to earth. I really enjoyed spending time with him. As difficult as it is for us to process his passing, it is worth finding solace in the impact that his life will have upon the local community as well as his surviving family and loved ones, namely his devoted wife Jackie, and daughters, Jacquelyn M. Siekiera and her husband Zachary, Jessica M. Bosco, Jamie Jo Bosco and her spouse, Isaac Velazquez, and considered son in law, Ben Hebert, and his four cherished grandchildren. Joey also leaves behind brothers, John and Angelo, and sister, Rori, as well as numerous extended family members and friends.

To that end, I ask that the entire House join me in setting Joseph Bosco's name further into stone, and to recognize his life of incredible service to the Enfield community.

OBSERVING DISTRACTED DRIVING
AWARENESS MONTH

HON. RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 11, 2022

Mr. KIRSHNAMOORTHY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join thousands of organizations and individuals around the country in observation of Distracted Driving Awareness Month. Over ten years ago, a mother who lost her daughter to a distracted driving crash successfully petitioned this body to have April officially designated as Distracted Driving Awareness Month. This month brings a needed awareness of the impact distracted driving has had and continues to have on our nation's roadways.

Research shows that using electronic devices increases cognitive distraction. Yet, according to a recent survey released by the National Safety Council—a nonprofit based in my district—47% of drivers believe they can safely text while driving. This can be deadly on the road, where a split-second distraction can cause a crash. Approximately 3,142 people died in distraction-affected driving crashes in 2020—that's eight people dying every day from a completely preventable cause—and this number is widely believed to be undercounted.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the roads have become much more dangerous. Motor vehicle deaths in 2021 are estimated to be the highest in 17 years, despite dramatic drops in miles driven as Americans stayed home. Though there are many factors involved in this increase in the number of people dying in crashes, distraction certainly played a part.

I am proud to have led legislation that was enacted last year to help end this epidemic, though there is more to be done to eradicate this issue. I encourage all motorists to commit to driving attentively and safely, without the distraction of cell phones or other devices. I also hope my colleagues will join me this month in raising awareness about this important issue. Do it for all our constituents. Their lives are more valuable than any call, email, or text.